

## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

In re Patent No. 6970939

Issue Date: November 29,2005

Application No. 09681644 :DECISION GRANTING PETITION :UNDER 37 CFR 1.378(c)

Filed: May 15,2001

Attorney Docket No. 72100.911

This is a decision on the electronic petition, filed October 14,2010 ,under 37 CFR 1.378(c) to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of the 3.5 year maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is accepted, and the above-identified patent reinstated as of This decision also constitutes notice that the fee has been accepted. An electronic copy of the petition and this decision has been created as an entry in the Image File Wrapper. Nevertheless, petitioner should print and retain an independent copy.

Telephone inquiries related to this electronic decision should be directed to the Electronic Business Center at 1-866-217-9197.